

March 5, 1964

Dr. George Rosenkranz  
Director General  
Syntex, S.A.  
Apartado 2679  
Mexico, U. F.

Dear George:

Wiener generally knows what he is talking about, but I am not so sure this time. He has picked up, I think, what is a current idea, although I think a crazy one, that is being discussed by a number of people, and was motivated especially by Hyden. Actually there is some discussion of this in the book "Man and his Future", the Ciba Symposium that was held in London in November, 1962, of which I think you have a copy. If you have not I will be glad to send you one. I would refer to pages 312 for a statement and 267 for a conservative reply on my part. Of course I could be dead wrong on this, but I just don't see either the need or the feasibility of postulating schemes for the translation of electrical impulses into RNA sequences, and much more straightforward interpretations of cerebral development seem to me to be completely sufficient. On the other hand, I wouldn't be surprised at all if new methods of memory systems are developed from polymer chemistry.

I hope we do have some chance to talk about this at some time, and with best regards until then.

Sincerely yours,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics

Rosenkranz, G.